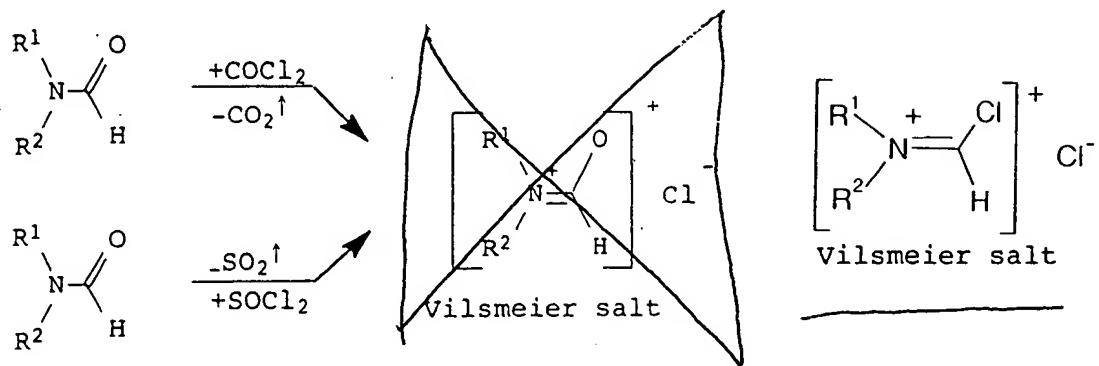


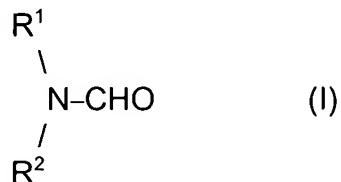
AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 2, lines 30-39, correct the formula for the "Vilsmeier salt" as shown:



COMPLETE LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

1. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of carbonyl chlorides by reacting carboxylic acids with phosgene or thionyl chloride in the presence of a catalyst adduct of an N,N-disubstituted formamide of the formula (I) in which R¹ and R² independently of one another are C₁- to C₄-alkyl or R¹ and R²



together are a C₄- or C₅-alkylene chain and phosgene or thionyl chloride, which comprises introducing gaseous hydrogen chloride during the reaction.

2. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, overall, a molar amount of gaseous hydrogen chloride of 0.2 to 2.0, based on the molar amount of carboxylic acid employed, is used.

3. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the reaction with phosgene, a molar amount of N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) of 0.05 to 2.0, based on the molar amount of carboxylic acid employed, is used.

4. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the reaction with thionyl chloride, a molar amount of N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) of 0.001 to 0.05, based on the molar amount of carboxylic acid employed, is used.

5. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, during the reaction,

a molar amount of phosgene or thionyl chloride of 1.0 to 2.0, based on the molar amount of carboxylic acid, is used.

6. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the molar proportion of the catalyst adduct of the N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) and phosgene or thionyl chloride, based on the molar amount of N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) plus catalyst adduct, is less than 0.3 after the reaction.
7. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the molar proportion of the catalyst adduct of the N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) and phosgene or thionyl chloride, based on the molar amount of N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) plus catalyst adduct, is less than 0.1 after the reaction.
8. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbonyl chloride is isolated from the reaction mixture following the reaction by phase separation.
9. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the N,N-disubstituted formamide (I) used is N,N-dimethylformamide.
10. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, following the reaction, the N,N-disubstituted formamide (I), its hydrochloride and catalyst adduct are separated off and reused as catalyst precursor in the carbonyl chloride synthesis.
11. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acids are reacted with phosgene.
12. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbonyl

chlorides prepared are acetyl chloride, propionyl chloride, butyryl chloride, valeryl chloride, isovaleryl chloride, pivaloyl chloride, caproyl chloride, 2-ethylbutyryl chloride, enanthyl chloride, capryloyl chloride, 2-ethylhexanoyl chloride, pelargonoyl chloride, isononanoyl chloride, capryl chloride, neodecanoyl chloride, lauroyl chloride, myristoyl chloride, palmitoyl chloride, stearoyl chloride, oleoyl chloride, linoleoyl chloride, linolenoyl chloride, arachidoyl chloride and behenoyl chloride, and mixtures thereof.